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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/035,811	11/07/2001	Guido Gennasio	21954	1771

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EXAMINER

NICHOLSON, ERIC K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/035,811

Applicant(s)

GENNASIO, GUIDO

Examiner

Eric K Nicholson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 26 and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Information of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 16,1,19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 2,184,116 to Eastman. The Eastman patent illustrates the present invention showing a pipe fitting 7 for pipe 5 exhibiting coating 24 (Fig. 1) having high mechanical and/or chemical resistance (page 3, lines 30-35), the pipe fitting 7 comprising a first tubular portion 6 adapted to be connected to the pipe 5 and is connected to a second portion 9 wherein the first tubular 6 portion exhibits an inside coating 10 made of a material having high mechanical and/or chemical resistance (page 2, lines 45-50). As to claim 17, as shown in fig. 1 the second portion 9 includes the coating 10. As to claims 19 and 20, element 2 shows a tubular clamping member. As to claim 21 the clamping member includes protrusions 14 shown in fig. 1. As to claim 22, see page 4, lines 25-35 which makes it known to use rubber cement between the fitting 7 and the pipe. As to claim 23, the clamping member includes the groove and collar interconnection like that of the present

invention at 8. As to claims 24, see page 2, lines 45-50 and page 3, lines 30-35 which disclose the lining of the fitting 7 being the same as the lining of the pipe 5.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 2,184,116 to Eastman in view of U.S. patent 4,293,150 to Press. Eastman discloses the claimed device however as to claim 18 the first tubular portion does not include protruding elements or barbs extending outwardly therefrom and anchored into the internal lining of the hose. Press illustrates what is notoriously known in the hose coupling art, providing barbs 16 on an internal nipple for holding and gripping the hose. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the nipple/first tubular portion of Eastman with barbs 16

as taught by Press, in order to provide a more secure coupling between the hose and tubular portion due to increased gripping of the hose by the barbs, see column 4, lines 60-65.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 2,184,116 to Eastman in view of U.S. patent 5,044,671 to Chisnell et al.. As noted above the Eastman patent discloses the claimed device however as to claim 11 no seal is shown between the pipe liner 24 and the fitting 6. Chisnell et al. discloses that it is known in the art to provide a similar type coupling with a sealing ring 28 added to seal between the liner 46 and the fitting 12 to act as a seal under all operating conditions. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the pipe fitting of Eastman with a seal ring such as a seal ring 28 taught by Chisnell, in order to provide a more secure coupling for the inserted fitting due additional sealing provided by the seal between the liner and the fitting to stop leakage of fluid therebetween.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 26 and 27 allowable over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

Applicant's remarks in regards to Eastman have been considered however are not deemed to be persuasive. Applicant argues the Eastman does not show a

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prolongation as claimed but rather an offset arrangement. It is the position of the examiner that this is a difference without distinction and applicant's further arguments appear to be more limiting than the claims themselves. Clearly the offset arrangement of the internal lining is a prolongation of the internal coating.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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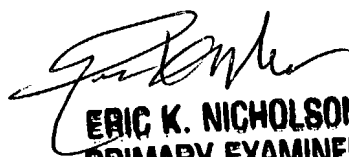
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Nicholson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0829. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola, can be reached on (703) 308-2686. The fax phone number for Technology Center 3600 is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

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ERIC K. NICHOLSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER